Patients in the General Hospital, Ernakulam.

13. Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) the total number of patients treated in the General Hospital, Ernakulam—both in-patients and out-patients from 1st February 1931 up-to-date and also the total number of such patients for a like period immediately previous to the 1st February 1931;

(b) the total income derived from the fees collected from the paywards for the periods above-mentioned?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(a) 1. 1,31,049.

2. 1,15,634.

(b) 1. Rs. 4,539—8—0.

2. 2,920—8—0.

Service of Sreemathi K. Lekshmikutty Amma, L. M. P.

14. Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Will the Government be pleased to state why the service of Sreemathi K. Lekshmikutty Amma, L. M. P., of the Civil Hospital, Trichur, was terminated by the Government?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—The service of Sub-Assistant Surgeon K. Lekshmikutty Amma has not been terminated.

15. Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether any orders dispensing with the services of the Sub-Assistant Surgeon Sreemathi K. Lekshmikutty Amma had been issued;

(b) if so, for what reason;

(c) whether those orders have been carried out;

(d) if not, why not;

(e) is there any adverse remarks about her capacity for work previous to the order dispensing with her services;

(f) if there are any, when and on what account were they made and by whom?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(a) Her services were not dispensed with but orders terminating her acting period were issued.

(b) Because her professional capacity was reported to be not up to the standard.

(c) No.

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(d) Government have decided to give her a further opportunity of showing whether she can improve.

(e) Yes.

(f) On 16th Kanni 1107 and on 7th Kumbham 1107 the Civil Surgeon, Trichur, reported to the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer that she was not paying proper attention to her work and that her professional capacity is very very average.

16. Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the Council table a copy of the Report made by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer for her appointment as well as for dispensing with the services of Sub-Assistant Surgeon Sreemathi K. Lekshmikutty Amma ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—The reports cannot be published.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—May I know why that report could not be placed on the table? Is it treated as a confidential paper or is it a secret communication?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Recommendations from the Heads of Departments to the Government are published only after they are carefully scrutinised and it cannot be a general rule that all such communications should be published.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Was this recommendation scrutinised by the Government? May I take it that the Government thought it not proper to publish the report?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes. The answer is clear.

17. Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(1) whether K. Lekshmikutty Amma, L. M. P., of the Civil Hospital, Trichur, was served with a notice intimating her that her services was to terminate on the allegation that she was inefficient ;

(2) whether the Government is aware that she passed out second in rank from Lady Willingdon's Medical School;

(3) whether the Government is also aware that she was entertained in the Government Gosha Hospital, Madras, because of her high rank ;

(4) whether there was any complaint against her efficiency while she was working in that institution ;

(5) whether she was entertained in the State as Medical Inspectress of Schools;

(6) whether there was any questioning of her efficiency in that connection;

(7) whether she was recommended for re-entertainment after her resignation ;

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(8) what the report of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer wasabout her efficiency, etc., when she was recommended for re-entertainment;

(9) how long she had worked as the Medical Inspectress of Schools;

(10) how long she has been in Civil Hospital, Trichur;

(11) when and by whom she was found inefficient;

(12) whether there was any specific instance of her being professionally inefficient;

(13) whether there was at any time any complaint from any one to the Civil Surgeon, Trichur, about her professional inefficiency;

(14) whether the Civil Surgeon, Trichur, has recently any favourable recommendation to the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer in this connection; and if so, what the recommendation is?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—(1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

(3) (4) } Government have no information.

(5) Yes.

(6) No; but she resigned her appointment.

(7) Yes.

(8) That she may be appointed and posted to Civil Hospital, Trichur.

(9) For three months and two days.

(10) Since 5th Medam 1106.

(11) On 7th Kumbham 1107: by the Civil Surgeon, Trichur.

(12) Yes.

(13) Yes.

(14) No favourable recommendation; but only a favourable interpretation of his original report.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—(8). Was there any reference made to her efficiency in that recommendation?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I want notice.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—(14) "No favourable recommendation but only a favourable interpretation of his original report." Is it not a favourable recommendation? Does it not mean that the Chief Medical Officer did not understand the meaning at first? The Civil Surgeon had to make him understand what he had meant in his recommendation.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—The question is not clear.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—'No favourable recommendation but a favourable interpretation': If there was no favourable recom-

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mendation how can the officer who recommended can make that recommendation a favourable recommendation by interpretation?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—He interpreted his original letter.

Mr. K Ayyappan.—That means that the original recommendation was not rightly understood by the authorities.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—It was properly understood by the authorities.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—May I know what was the exact inefficiency complained of ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—That is confidential.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—(11) 'When and by whom she was found inefficient?' The answer is '7th Kumbham 1107 the Civil Surgeon, Trichur.' May I know whether it was in the morning or evening ?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Was the interpretation of the Civil Surgeon correct ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—It seems so.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Certain cases referred to in 12 and 13—whether they were verified before orders were passed?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—There was no opportunity to verify.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Did the Chief Medical Officer think it necessary to verify them before he passed orders?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—He did not think it necessary.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Has it been verified till now?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—No.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—With regard to clause 14 may I know why the Government did not answer the latter part of the question, *i. e.*, 'if so what the recommendation is.' No answer is given to that. May I know why that is not answered?

President.—It seems that there was no favourable recommendation.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The question was whether there was any favourable recommendation. The answer is no favourable recommendation.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—That recommendation refers to the favourable recommendation, *i. e.*, the first phrase in the second line in sub-division 14. Was there any recommendation at all ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—It was an interpretation of the original letter.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Was there any requisition from the Chief Medical Officer for an interpretation of the letter ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—No.

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Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Then why was this interpretation sent?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—It was his endorsement while forwarding her petition to the Government.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Was this interpretation made in response to the query made by the Chief Medical Officer or it was a report made of his own accord ?

President.—Which sub-division of the question?

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Sub-division 14.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—That is an endorsement on her petition.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—I am referring to sub-division 8 also.

President.—What is your supplementary question ?

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—The Civil Surgeon, Trichur hospital, reported that the Sub-Assistant Surgeon was wanting in efficiency in her work. I am referring to that report. May I know whether that report was in response to any query from the Chief Medical Officer ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes, there was.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—May I know what made the Chief Medical Officer to send that query ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—There were two acting hands in the Department and I asked both the Civil Surgeons to report about the progress of their work.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Am I to understand that the recommendation was not found favourable by the Government? The recommendation was, according to the Civil Surgeon, favourable to the party, but the Government have found that it is not a favourable recommendation.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—There was only an interpretation.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—With regard to (12) may I know whether any specific instance was pointed out in this report?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—With regard to clause 14 may I know whether the Government have any objection in laying this communication upon the table ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I want notice.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—May I know whether the Government have any objection to place it on the table ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I can answer that only if I go through the paper carefully.

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Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Are we to understand that Civil Surgeon's report was not favourable and that the Civil Surgeon was trying to interpret his report in such a way as to go back upon his original recommendation ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—The interpretation that was given subsequently was the remarks that he forwarded along with the petition that she sent to the Government.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—That does not answer my question. The question was are we to think that Government are of opinion that the Civil Surgeon is trying to go back upon his original recommendation by giving interpretation of his meaning which according to the Government was different from what he said at first.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Was the original report capable of a subsequent interpretation ?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—The interpretation was correct. That was stated.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Whether the Hon'ble Member wants to give an opinion about his motive or about the general way in which it is to be understood ?

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—What the Government thinks with regard to the Civil Surgeon's recommendation?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We had no occasion to think any thing of that recommendation?

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Have not the Government taken any action on the recommendation before considering the meaning ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—They have considered the contents of it. I want to make that point clear.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—If the Government have considered they should have some idea with regard to the nature of the report and recommendation.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—What is it that the Member means by the nature of the report ?

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—What is the purport of the report ? There must be a specific point which he urges, in the report.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—With regard to that Government have answered already,—that Government understood it in one way at first and then there was a further report from the Civil Surgeon urging another interpretation about it; that also Government perused and studied.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Then the Government's action was not justified on the original recommendation. Was it not so ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We cannot say that.

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Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Either the Civil Surgeon was wrong in wording his recommendation or the Government were wrong in understanding the recommendation. In either case the action taken upon on that recommendation was unjustifiable. Was it not so?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—He might have been more happy in his wording.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—May I know whether there was any report with regard to her capacity before 7th Kumbham 1107?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—There were.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—By whom?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—Civil Surgeon.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Was it also in answer to any query from the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—No.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—How many of them were there?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—One or two.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Was it also with regard to her professional inefficiency?

Dr D. Raghavendra Rao.—Yes.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—What are the dates of the report?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—I want notice.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—May I know whether these reports can be placed on the table?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—They are confidential.

Mr E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Was any action taken upon these reports?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—No action was taken.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Was she given any information with regard to these reports?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—No.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Why was it so?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao.—It was not considered necessary.

Vakkalaths filed:

18. Mr. K. Ayyappan .—Will the Government be pleased to give in a tabular form the names of the vakils and the total number of vakkalaths filed by each separately for the last six half years inclusive of the first half of 1107, in the Chief Court, the Principal District Court and the Principal Munsiff's ourt of Anjikaimal?

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